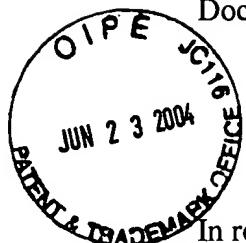


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Docket No. 49986-0505 (RSID 1-351)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Hitoshi SEKINE, et al.

Application No. 09/782,988

Filed: February 13, 2001

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR STORING
AND MANAGING DATA**

) Group Art Unit: 2172

) Examiner: Fred I. Ehichioya

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JUN 2 8 2004

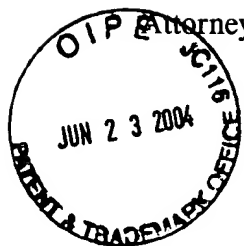
Technology Center 2100

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION WITHOUT AMENDMENT

Sir:

This reply is submitted in response to the Final Office Action mailed on April 5,
2004.



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of) Group Art Unit: 2172
)
Hitoshi SEKINE, et al.) Examiner: Fred I. Ehichioya
)
Application No. 09/782,988)
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For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR STORING)
AND MANAGING DATA)

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Technology Center 2100

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Reply to Office Action Without Amendment in the above-identified application.

- ☒ No additional fee is required.
☒ Return Receipt Postcard.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	NO. OF CLAIMS	HIGHEST PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	FEE
Total Claims	28	31	0	\$18.00 =	\$0.00
Independent Claims	3	3	0	\$86.00 =	\$0.00
Multiple claims newly presented					\$0.00
Fee for extension of time					\$0.00
TOTAL FEE DUE					\$0.00

- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP



Dated: June 21, 2004

Edward A. Becker
Reg. No. 37,777

1600 Willow Street
San Jose, CA 95125
(408) 414-1080 ext. 204
Facsimile: (408) 414-1076

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: **Mail Stop Amendment**, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

On June 21, 2004

By



Angelica Jaquez